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President's Notes

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President's Notes

As we complete our Centennial year celebrations, I want to call attention to a part of our campus that has been quietly emerging as a major contributor to the Naval War College mission—the Center for Continuing Education, or, as we call it, “CCE.” This is the extension department of the college, responsible for all nonresident instruction.

Originally known as the Correspondence School, CCE has an inter-

esting past. It was formally established in 1914; however, its antecedents provided seminar instruction to the staff of the US Naval Academy as early as 1906. Among the past directors of the Center were Lieutenant Commander William S. Pye (1914–1915) and Commander Raymond A. Spruance (1932–1933), both of whom became distinguished flag officers and later returned to Newport as Presidents of the college.

From its inception, the mission of CCE has been to provide Naval War College courses to nonresident students who seek to expand their professional horizons. Today, the Center is truly an extension of the Newport campus, offering courses which not only permit an officer to study the entire College of Naval Command and Staff core curriculum; but also to receive a Naval War College nonresident diploma. This diploma is recognized by the Chief of Naval Personnel as representing completion of the Naval War College at the intermediate i.e. Command and Staff level, a major career achievement.

The best known of CCE programs is the correspondence course program which has been described periodically in the *Review*. In more recent years, CCE has been offering an off-campus seminar program in Washington, DC, and now in other locations. Completion of either track or a combination thereof qualifies the student for the nonresident diploma.

One of Admiral Watkins' key initiatives has been an increased emphasis on Naval War College education. In past “President's Notes,” I have described how the college is receiving more naval officers in the resident courses with more operational and command experience than ever before. There still remain, however, large numbers of highly qualified officers who would benefit from a Naval War College education, but who may not be able to attend in residence because of competing demands for their time and talents.

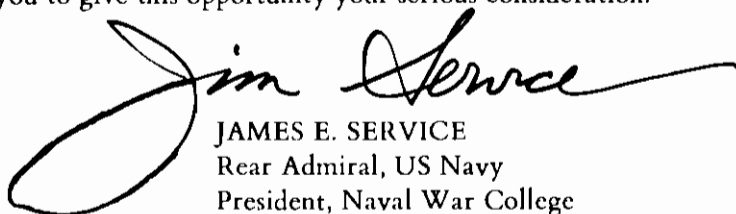
To meet the educational needs of the Navy and to assist talented and ambitious naval officers to reach their professional education goals, the Naval War College has expanded its programs for nonresident study. This

expansion has taken two forms: first, increased opportunities for naval officers to participate through the correspondence course program, and second, expansion of the number of locations where officers may participate in the Off-Campus Seminar Program. In this latter program, officers O-3 and above, can complete the core curriculum through weekly seminars held in the evening. In cooperation with the Chief of Naval Air Training and the Superintendent of the US Naval Academy, I have recently opened three new Centers for Off-Campus study, in Corpus Christi, Texas; Pensacola, Florida; and Annapolis, Maryland. The new Centers are modeled on the highly successful Off-Campus Seminar Program now in its tenth year in the Washington, DC area. Currently over 340 students are enrolled in Off-Campus Seminar courses! I anticipate that approximately 30 percent of those graduating from the Naval War College next June, at the Command and Staff level, will come from the nonresident programs! Plans are being made to further increase the number of Naval War College Off-Campus Centers in other areas around the country where there are large numbers of naval officers. Demand and sponsoring command support will help determine how rapidly this program is expanded.

Naval War College nonresident programs are of high quality and tough. They are not for everyone. As with the resident program, they require discipline and intellectual vigor. The nonresident courses are substantive, graduate-level courses to which the same high standards are applied as in resident courses. Though the demands are high, these courses are professionally and personally rewarding.

Although CCE nonresident students spend most of their time away from the Newport campus, I get a good look at many when they come to Newport to participate in special resident activities and when they come to graduate with their resident classmates. Two of last June's graduates, with whom I spoke, are on their way to command; one to a nuclear submarine and the other to an F/A-18 squadron. Both are convinced that their War College studies have significantly influenced their opportunities for further professional growth.

For those of you who would like to know more about the programs and courses offered by the Naval War College's Center for Continuing Education, I suggest that you send in the card located at the back of this issue of the *Review*. You will be sent more information about the courses and how to apply. I urge you to give this opportunity your serious consideration.



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